A provision of Rs. 6 lakhs has been included in the budget for the next year, under Capital Works, for the execution of the first stage of the scheme.

43. *Sinking Funds.*—The capital expenditure met by the Secretary of State for India on account of the Shencotta-Quilon Railway amounts to Bh. Rs. 138·58 lakhs and the capital expenditure incurred by this State on the Quilon-Trivandrum line amounts Rs. 53·71 lakhs. The Sinking Funds created in connection with the Railway and the Debenture Loan of 1091 amount Rs. 80·30 lakhs and the whole sum is invested in gilt-edged securities.

44. *State Provident Fund.*—With a view to provide some facilities for Government servants to invest a portion of their savings to serve as an asset at the time of retirement, Government sanctioned the institution of a State Provindent Fund with effect from 1st Meenam 1107. The fund is open to all officers in permanent pensionable service under Government or Local Bodies and is compulsory in the case of all entrants into Government service after 1st Meenam last, who do not insure their lives in the State Life Insurance Scheme. Subscriptions to the Fund will for the present, carry compound interest at 5 per cent. per annum. Two thousand and five hundred officers on varying scales of pay have already expressed their desire to contribute to the Fund.

45. *Loans made by Government.—Agricultural Loans.*—On account of economic depression an allotment of Rs. 4·5 lakhs was provided in the current year's budget of which Rs. 3·5 lakhs was for the grant of ordinary agricultural loans and Rs. 1 lakh for the grant of special loans to the *punja* cultivators in Kuttanad. For the ensuing year Rs. 4 lakhs is provided of which Rs. 1 lakh is ear-marked for the grant of special loans to the *punja* cultivators in Kuttanad.

46. *Other Loans.*—A provision of Rs. half a lakh for industrial loans and of another half a lakh for miscellaneous loans and advances bearing interest is also made for the next year.

47. On account of the unprecedented fall in revenue and the heavy outlay on our capital undertakings, our cash balance in treasuries and in the Imperial Bank of India which was Rs. 42·69 lakhs at the beginning of the current year came down to Rs. 35·20 lakhs at the end of Vrischikam. In order to maintain an adequate cash balance in treasuries and provide funds for the capital works in progress, borrowed capital was necessary and His Highness the Maha Raja was pleased to grant a loan of Bh. Rs.10 lakhs from His Highness' private funds.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

48. A statement of our assets and liabilities as at the close of 1107 and 1108 is given on page 7 of the Budget Estimates. The total booked assets at the close of last year amounted to Rs. 345·89 lakhs and the liabilities to Rs. 204·40 lakhs and according to the revised estimates of the current year the assets would amount to Rs. 346·79 lakhs and the liabilities to Rs. 228·82 lakhs. Our surplus investments which stood at

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[Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai.]

Rs. 198·78 lakhs at the close of 1106 are expected to be reduced to Rs. 194·03 lakhs at the close of the current year and further reduced to Rs. 181·07 lakhs at the close of the next year on account of our drawings for expenditure on capital works during these years. Our assets and liabilities at the close of 1108 are thus expected to stand at Rs. 345·04 lakhs and Rs. 242·85 lakhs, respectively. The Government Account which stood at Rs. 141·49 lakhs at the close of 1106 is expected to be reduced to Rs. 117·97 lakhs at the close of the current year as a result of the anticipated revenue deficit and expenditure on capital works during the year. As Government propose to incur a capital expenditure of Rs. 18·93 lakhs during the next year, the net deficit is estimated at Rs. 15·78 lakhs. The Government Account is therefore expected to close with a balance of Rs. 102·19 lakhs. Our cash balance in Treasuries and in the Imperial Bank of India at the close of the current and ensuing years is expected to stand at Rs. 40·05 lakhs and Rs. 40·57 lakhs respectively.

Legislative Business.

THE TRAVANCORE STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, before formally moving the Third Reading of the Bill, I beg permission to move for a small formal amendment being made in clause 1, sub-clause (i), relating to the short title of the Bill. I move that '*1107*' be added at the end of the words '*The Travancore State Aid to Industries Regulation*'. It is intended to make the short title complete.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

The amendment was carried *nem con.*

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I now beg to move that the Bill, as it has just now been amended, be finally passed.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

The motion was carried *nem con.*

THE TRAVANCORE CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): In this Bill also a similar amendment has to be made—to make the short title complete—before I formally move for the final reading of the Bill. I move that the figure '*7*' be inserted after the figures '*110* ' in clause 1, sub-clause (1), relating to the short title of the Bill, so that the short title may read as 'The Travancore Criminal Law Amendment Regulation, 1107.'

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

The amendment was carried *nem con.*

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